

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Aquatic Resources
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

August 22, 2008

Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii

Request Approval to Extend the Temporary Closure to Bottomfishing from August 31, 2008 until November 14, 2008 for All State Marine Waters Surrounding the Existing Bottomfish Restricted Fishing Areas of the Main Hawaiian Islands

Submitted for your consideration and approval is a request to extend the temporary closure to bottomfishing from August 31 until November 14, 2008 for all State marine waters surrounding the existing bottomfish restricted fishing areas of the main Hawaiian Islands.

This action is necessary to be consistent with proposed federal fisheries regulations that would extend the bottomfishing closed season in federal marine waters for the same time period. Recently, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council voted to delay the season opening until November 15, 2008. This time extension was needed to allow the NOAA Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center time to update the bottomfish complex stock assessment using more current data.

A recently enacted State law requires the Department to adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS, that are equivalent to federal regulations when there is a shared jurisdiction of a fishery, and that fishery has been declared to be in a state of overfishing, as is the case for the bottomfish complex. Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter 13-94 permits the Department to amend restricted fishing areas by formal board action.

Upon approval by the Board, the amended attached maps would be filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, and become effective on/around September 1, 2008.

RECOMMENDATION:

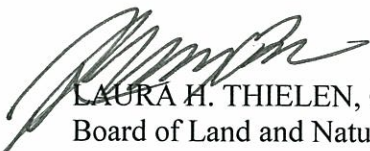
"That the Board approve the extension of the temporary closure to bottomfishing from August 31 until November 14, 2008 for all State marine waters surrounding the existing bottomfish restricted fishing areas of the main Hawaiian Islands."

Respectfully Submitted,



DAN POLHEMUS
Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



LAURA H. THIELEN, Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources

Attachments

ITEM F-3

Exhibit A: Bottomfish Restricted Fishing Areas (BRFAs) 8/22/08

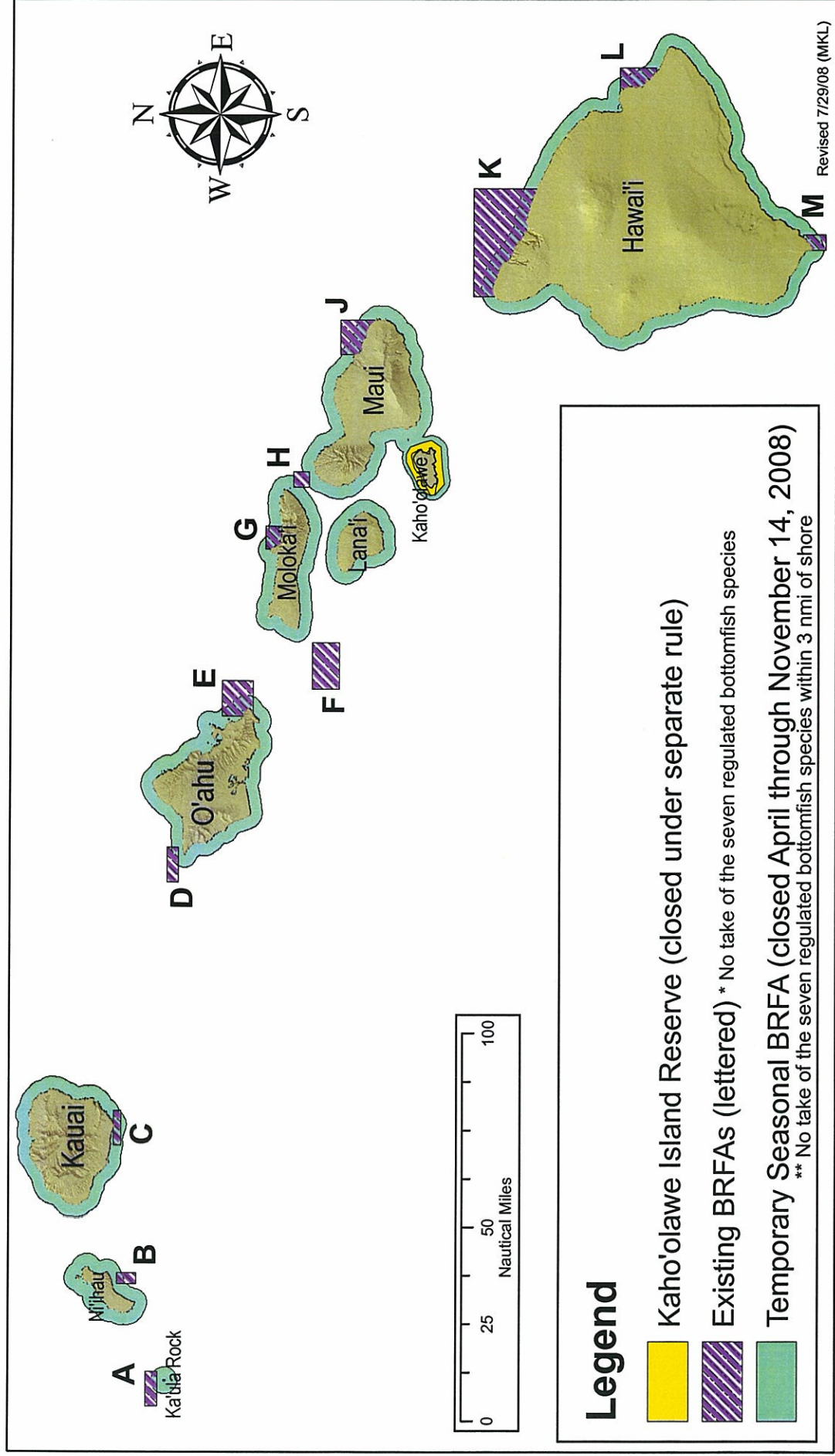


Exhibit A2: Kauai County BRFAs

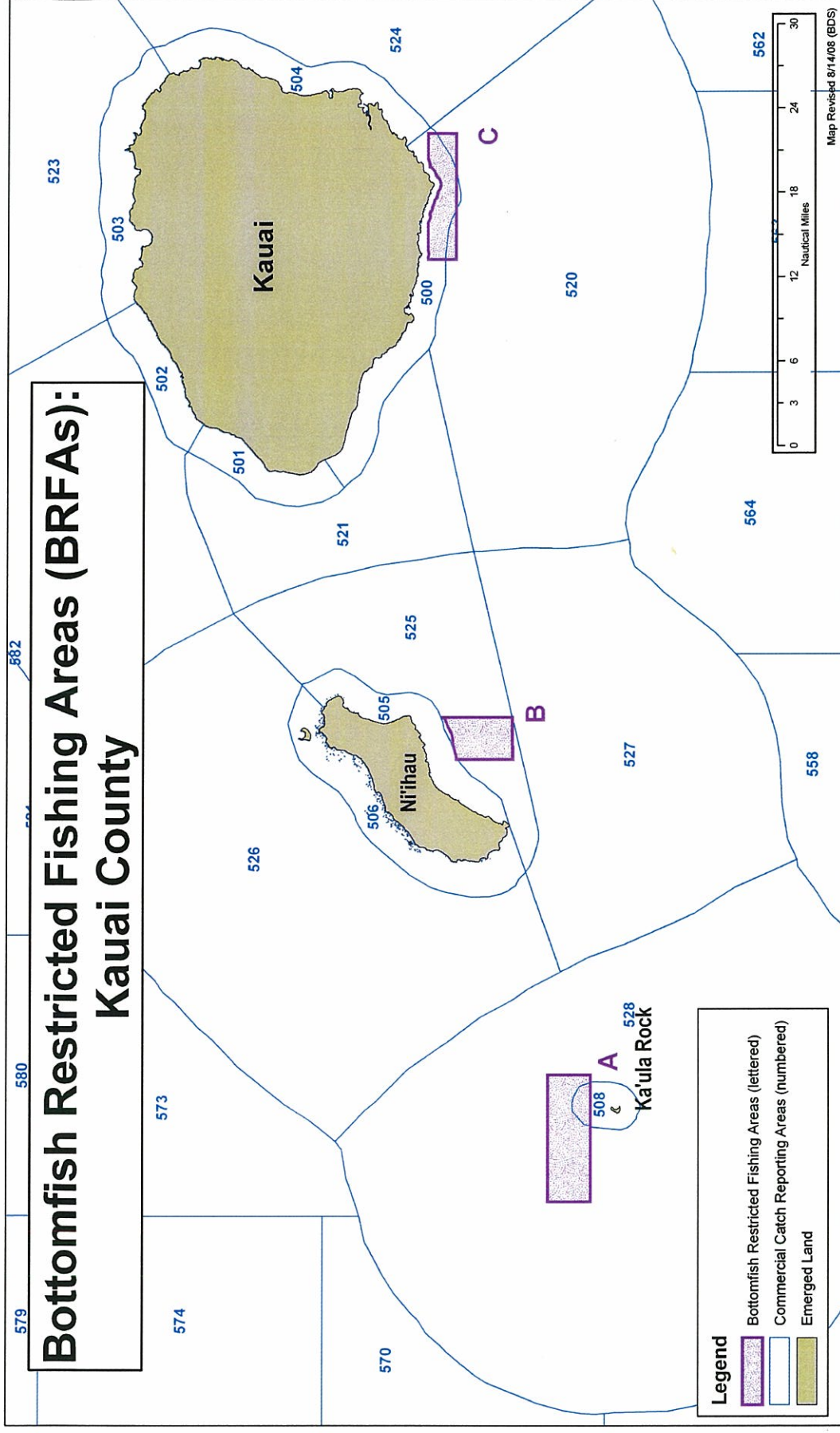


Exhibit A3: Honolulu C&C BRFA's

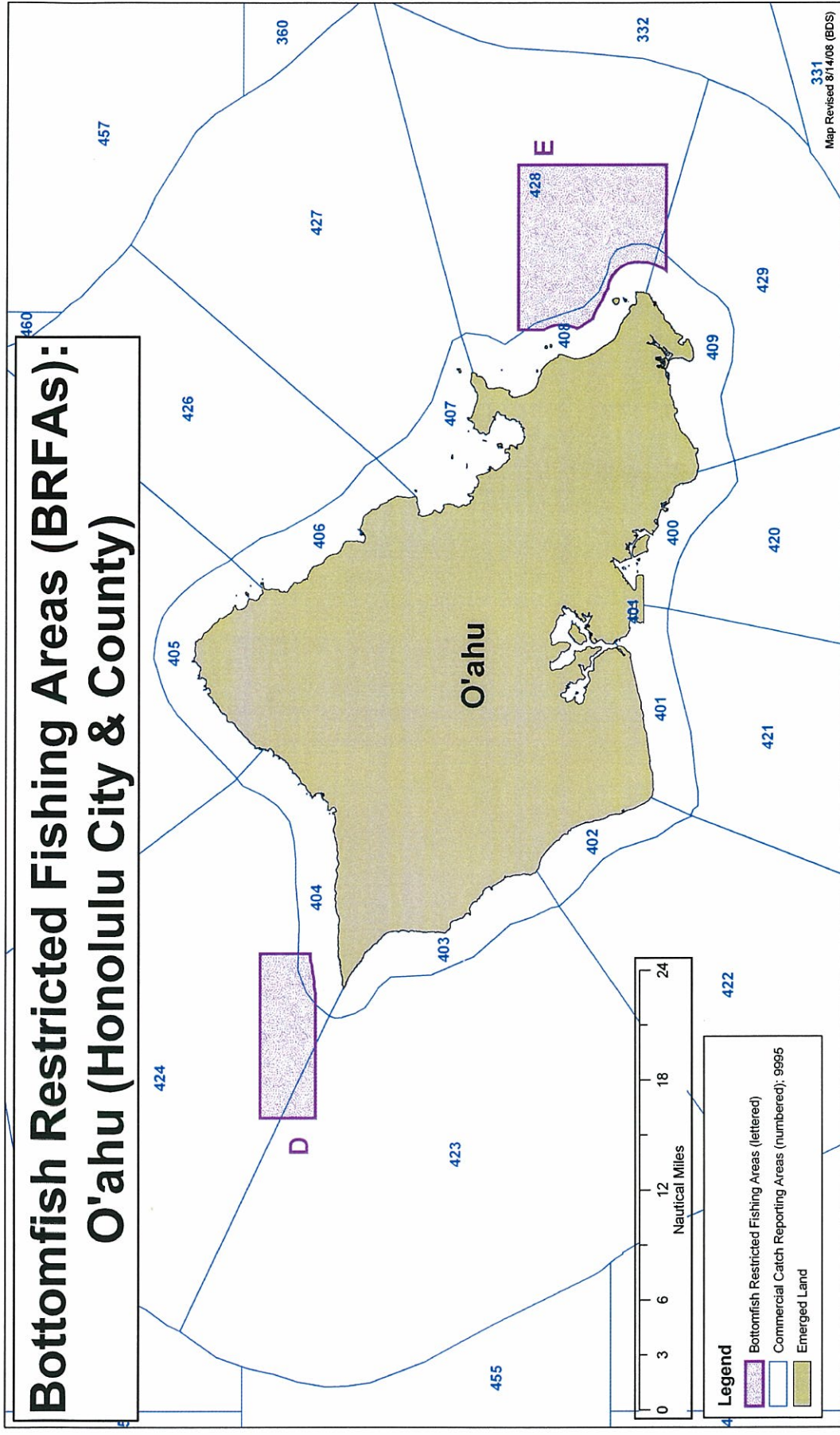


Exhibit A4: Maui County BRFAs

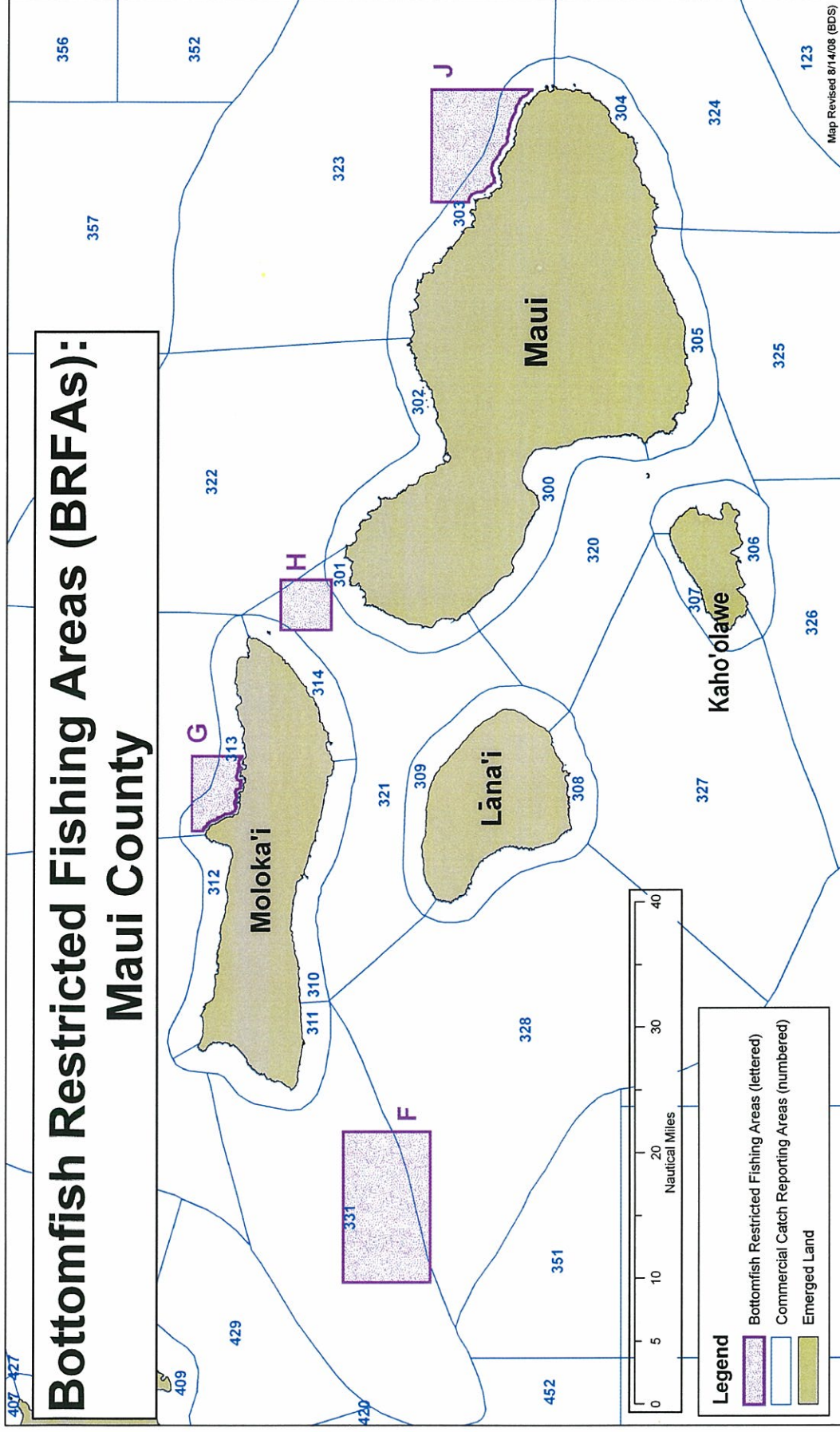


Exhibit A5: Hawai'i County BRFAs

